

3 June 2014
FOIA reference: F0001928

Dear XXXX

I am writing in respect of your recent request of 14 May 2014, for the release of information held by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA).

Your request:

“The total number of bird strikes reported at Belfast City airport in 2012/13 and 2013/14 also if possible details on the type of bird or birds please?”

Our response:

In assessing your request in line with the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA), we are pleased to be able to provide the information below.

The CAA runs and administers an on-line birdstrike reporting scheme which is intended to record birdstrikes in UK airspace, regardless of whether damage was caused to the aircraft. A birdstrike means any incident in flight in which there was reason to believe that the aircraft has been in collision with one or more birds.

An extract from the on-line birdstrike database for all confirmed bird strikes reported for Belfast City airport between 2012 and 2014 inclusive can be found attached, showing the number of bird strikes and the bird species if available.

This data includes all reports of confirmed birdstrikes from all sources and thus may contain duplicate reports of the same incident from different sources. It should be noted that data recorded from the on-line reporting system is a direct entry from the reporter under the terms of the Article 227 of the Air Navigation Order (ANO) 2009. We have removed identifying information from these reports as this information is exempt from disclosure under Section 44 (1) (a) of the FOIA.

Section 44 (1) (a) of the FOIA provides that information is exempt information if its disclosure is prohibited by, or under, any enactment. Under Section 23 of the Civil Aviation Act 1982, information which relates to a particular person (which includes a company or organisation) and has been supplied to the CAA pursuant to an ANO is prohibited from disclosure (a copy of this exemption can be found below).

The CAA's view is that the volume of bird strikes reported at a particular airport does not necessarily imply greater hazard. Due to the limitations of unverified reports, users should exercise extreme caution in forming definitive conclusions or opinions based on these numbers alone.

We would recommend that the birdstrike data is normalised by using UK Airport Statistics such as the Air Transport Movements at an airport, as published on the CAA website at the following link:

<http://www.caa.co.uk/default.aspx?catid=80&pagetype=88&pageid=3&sglid=3>

If you are not satisfied with how we have dealt with your request in the first instance you should approach the CAA in writing at:-

Mark Stevens
External Response Manager
Civil Aviation Authority
Aviation House
Gatwick Airport South
West Sussex
RH6 0YR

mark.stevens@caa.co.uk

The CAA has a formal internal review process for dealing with appeals or complaints in connection with Freedom of Information requests. The key steps in this process are set in the attachment.

Should you remain dissatisfied with the outcome you have a right under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act to appeal against the decision by contacting the Information Commissioner at:-

Information Commissioner's Office
FOI/EIR Complaints Resolution
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

www.ico.gov.uk/complaints.aspx

Should you wish to make further Freedom of Information requests, please use the e-form at <http://www.caa.co.uk/foi>.

Yours sincerely

Rick Chatfield
Information Rights and Enquiries Officer

CAA INTERNAL REVIEW & COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

- The original case to which the appeal or complaint relates is identified and the case file is made available;
- The appeal or complaint is allocated to an Appeal Manager, the appeal is acknowledged and the details of the Appeal Manager are provided to the applicant;
- The Appeal Manager reviews the case to understand the nature of the appeal or complaint, reviews the actions and decisions taken in connection with the original case and takes account of any new information that may have been received. This will typically require contact with those persons involved in the original case and consultation with the CAA Legal Department;
- The Appeal Manager concludes the review and, after consultation with those involved with the case, and with the CAA Legal Department, agrees on the course of action to be taken;
- The Appeal Manager prepares the necessary response and collates any information to be provided to the applicant;
- The response and any necessary information is sent to the applicant, together with information about further rights of appeal to the Information Commissioners Office, including full contact details.

Freedom of Information Act: Section 44

(1) Information is exempt information if its disclosure (otherwise than under this Act) by the public authority holding it-

- (a) is prohibited by or under any enactment,
- (b) is incompatible with any Community obligation, or
- (c) would constitute or be punishable as a contempt of court.

(2) The duty to confirm or deny does not arise if the confirmation or denial that would have to be given to comply with section 1(1)(a) would (apart from this Act) fall within any of paragraphs (a) to (c) of subsection (1).

BsStatus	BsDate	AerodromeDets	BirdSpecies	NumberOfBirdsSeen	NumberOfBirdsStruck
Confirmed	29/01/2012	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Black-headed gull (Larus ridibundus)	1	1
Confirmed	01/02/2012	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Unknown Bird	2 to 10	2 to 10
Confirmed	06/03/2012	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Swallow (Hirundo rustica)	1	1
Confirmed	19/03/2012	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Mistle thrush (Turdus viscivorus)	1	1
Confirmed	25/03/2012	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Teal (Anas crecca)	Unknown	1
Confirmed	17/04/2012	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Black-headed gull (Larus ridibundus)	1	1
Confirmed	27/04/2012	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Skylark (Alauda arvensis)	1	1
Confirmed	10/05/2012	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Skylark (Alauda arvensis)	1	1
Confirmed	28/05/2012	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Meadow pipit (Anthus pratensis)	1	1
Confirmed	29/05/2012	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Swift (Apus apus)	2 to 10	1
Confirmed	03/06/2012	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Swallow (Hirundo rustica)	2 to 10	1
Confirmed	27/06/2012	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Swallow (Hirundo rustica)	1	1
Confirmed	28/06/2012	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Mallard (Anas platyrhynchos)	1	1
Confirmed	04/07/2012	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Black-headed gull (Larus ridibundus)	1	1
Confirmed	08/07/2012	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Swift (Apus apus)	1	1
Confirmed	09/07/2012	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	No Remains Found	Nil	Unknown
Confirmed	11/07/2012	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	No Remains Found	Nil	1
Confirmed	19/07/2012	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Swallow (Hirundo rustica)	1	1
Confirmed	20/07/2012	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Swallow (Hirundo rustica)	1	1
Confirmed	20/07/2012	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Magpie (Pica pica)	Unknown	1
Confirmed	23/07/2012	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	No Remains Found	Unknown	Unknown
Confirmed	27/07/2012	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Pigeon sp. (Columba sp.)	Unknown	1
Confirmed	29/07/2012	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Swallow (Hirundo rustica)	Nil	1
Confirmed	30/07/2012	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	House sparrow (Passer domesticus)	1	1
Confirmed	31/07/2012	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Swallow (Hirundo rustica)	1	1
Confirmed	22/08/2012	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Unknown Bird	1	Unknown
Confirmed	04/09/2012	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Swallow (Hirundo rustica)	1	1
Confirmed	10/09/2012	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Swallow (Hirundo rustica)	1	1
Confirmed	12/09/2012	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Gull sp. (Larus sp.)	1	1
Confirmed	17/10/2012	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Woodpigeon (Columba palumbus)	Unknown	1

BsStatus	BsDate	AerodromeDets	BirdSpecies	NumberOfBirdsSeen	NumberOfBirdsStruck
Confirmed	11/02/2013	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	No Remains Found	2 to 10	Unknown
Confirmed	08/03/2013	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Common gull (Larus canus)	1	1
Confirmed	12/04/2013	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Unknown Bird	Nil	Nil
Confirmed	22/04/2013	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Pigeon sp. (Columba sp.)	Unknown	1
Confirmed	26/04/2013	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Common gull (Larus canus)	1	1
Confirmed	05/05/2013	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Pigeon sp. (Columba sp.)	Unknown	1
Confirmed	05/05/2013	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Racing pigeon (Columba livia)	1	1
Confirmed	12/05/2013	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	House sparrow (Passer domesticus)	2 to 10	2 to 10
Confirmed	18/05/2013	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Lesser black-backed gull (Larus fuscus)	1	1
Confirmed	07/06/2013	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Lesser black-backed gull (Larus fuscus)	2 to 10	2 to 10
Confirmed	12/06/2013	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Swallow (Hirundo rustica)	1	1
Confirmed	12/06/2013	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Swallow (Hirundo rustica)	1	1
Confirmed	29/06/2013	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Woodpigeon (Columba palumbus)	1	1
Confirmed	30/06/2013	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Swallow (Hirundo rustica)	2 to 10	1
Confirmed	02/07/2013	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Unknown Bird	1	2 to 10
Confirmed	03/07/2013	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Unknown Bird	1	Unknown
Confirmed	04/07/2013	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	House martin (Delichon urbica)	1	1
Confirmed	06/07/2013	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Swallow (Hirundo rustica)	Nil	1
Confirmed	11/07/2013	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Swallow (Hirundo rustica)	2 to 10	1
Confirmed	15/07/2013	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	House martin (Delichon urbica)	Nil	1
Confirmed	16/07/2013	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Mistle thrush (Turdus viscivorus)	2 to 10	1
Confirmed	17/07/2013	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Unknown Bird	1	1
Confirmed	19/07/2013	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Song Thrush (Turdus philomelos)	Nil	1
Confirmed	22/07/2013	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Woodpigeon (Columba palumbus)	2 to 10	1
Confirmed	27/07/2013	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	House martin (Delichon urbica)	1	1
Confirmed	27/07/2013	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	House martin (Delichon urbica)	1	1
Confirmed	27/07/2013	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Unknown Bird	1	1
Confirmed	29/07/2013	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Lapwing (Vanellus vanellus)	1	1
Confirmed	30/07/2013	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Swallow (Hirundo rustica)	2 to 10	1
Confirmed	30/07/2013	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Gull sp. (Larus sp.)	2 to 10	1
Confirmed	02/08/2013	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Unknown Bird	1	1
Confirmed	02/08/2013	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Ringed Plover (Charadrius hiaticula)	1	1
Confirmed	02/08/2013	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Swallow (Hirundo rustica)	2 to 10	Unknown
Confirmed	03/08/2013	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	No Remains Found	Nil	Unknown
Confirmed	04/08/2013	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Woodpigeon (Columba palumbus)	1	2 to 10
Confirmed	06/08/2013	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Unknown Bird	2 to 10	2 Actual
Confirmed	12/08/2013	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Swallow (Hirundo rustica)	1	1
Confirmed	22/08/2013	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Unknown Bird	Nil	1
Confirmed	27/08/2013	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Swallow (Hirundo rustica)	Nil	1
Confirmed	27/08/2013	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Swallow (Hirundo rustica)	Nil	1
Confirmed	29/08/2013	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	No Remains Found	Nil	Unknown
Confirmed	06/09/2013	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Swallow (Hirundo rustica)	1	1
Confirmed	15/09/2013	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Unknown Bird	1	1
Confirmed	16/09/2013	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Woodpigeon (Columba palumbus)	1	1
Confirmed	23/09/2013	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Black-headed gull (Larus ridibundus)	1	1
Confirmed	30/09/2013	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	House sparrow (Passer domesticus)	1	1
Confirmed	30/09/2013	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	No Remains Found	Nil	Unknown
Confirmed	11/10/2013	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Unknown Bird	Nil	Unknown
Confirmed	13/10/2013	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Unknown Bird	1	1

Confirmed	25/10/2013	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Mistle thrush (<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>)	1	1
Confirmed	21/11/2013	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Racing pigeon (<i>Columba livia</i>)	2 to 10	1
Confirmed	13/12/2013	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Common gull (<i>Larus canus</i>)	2 to 10	2 to 10
Confirmed	20/12/2013	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Woodpigeon (<i>Columba palumbus</i>)	1	1

BsStatus	BsDate	AerodromeDets	BirdSpecies	NumberOfBirdsSeen	NumberOfBirdsStruck
Confirmed	28/01/2014	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Black-headed gull (Larus ridibundus)	2 to 10	1
Confirmed	16/04/2014	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Magpie (Pica pica)	1	1
Confirmed	28/04/2014	EGAC. BHD.. Belfast City	Black Headed Gull	2 to 10	Unknown